GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2353
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2016
Reconstitution of Board of Trade
Subbareddy Shri Yerram Venkata

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board of Trade has been reconstituted and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the first meeting of the Board has been recently held;
(c) if so, the details thereof along with the decisions taken thereon; and
(d) the manner in which the decisions are likely to impact export of goods from the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) The Board of Trade (BoT) has been reconstituted under the chairmanship of CIM on 23.03.2016. The BoT consists of 19 Non-Official Members, 31 Ex-Officio Members and 20 Official Members with the DGFT as Member Secretary.

(b) The first meeting of the reconstituted BoT was held on 6th April 2016.

(c & d) Members raised various issues and gave suggestions in wake of difficult Foreign Trade scenario prevailing across the globe. These included suggestions on Ease of Doing Business; Trade Facilitation; Investment in the country; restoration of eligibility criteria for status Holders as available in Foreign Trade Policy(2009-2014); dispensing with Landing Certificate; creation of a sub-group under Commerce Secretary to oversee implementation of Trade Facilitation Measures; having inter-ministerial consultation for resolving issues; etc.

Action has been taken with regard to issue like: restoration of previous criteria for awarding Status Holder Certificate and dispensing with requirement of landing certificate for Merchandise Exports From India Scheme (MEIS). An inter-ministerial committee to facilitate trading across borders& fast tracking of EXIM clearances has also been constituted recently in Department of Commerce.
These measures help in creating a better enabling environment for exports.
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